



## Self Guided Walking Tour

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- 4) Due west is the **Magdalyn E. Hausfeld Children's Garden**. This living classroom space is used for garden education programs throughout the year such as the Summer Farm & Science Camp, Tiny Tillers and Farm to School field trips.
- 5) To the northwest lies the **Main Field**. Harvests from these fields serve Crown Point's Community Supported Agriculture Program (CSA) and donations to the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank. About 35% of our harvest is donated to feed the hungry in an eight county area. Since 1997, Crown Point has donated over 250,000 pounds of Certified Organic produce to the Foodbank!
- 6) **The Greenhouses** allow a climate controlled environment to extend our growing season. The long mounds you see to the west are **Compost**, a natural soil amendment used to fertilize the gardens.
- 7) **Herb Garden**. Numerous varieties of medicinal and culinary herbs such as chives, sage, mint, and lemon balm grow amongst the stone accents in this garden. Re-purposed wine bottles are used as a decorative edging material at the borders of the garden.
- 8) **Centennial Bank Barn** Built in 1910, construction materials include first-growth forest timbers harvested from the property. Unique features are two indoor silos on the northwest interior, two granaries on the east side, and a hay trolley on the ceiling. Notice that the lower level of the barn sets into a bank of land, making entrance into the upper level easily accessible through the large doors. Note the prairie garden on the northern bank featuring many native Ohio perennials.

9) **Labyrinth.** All are welcome to walk Crown Point's meadow labyrinth, a meandering but purposeful natural path that combines the ancient symbols of the circle and spiral. Labyrinths have been used by cultures for thousands of years as places of prayer, reflection and meditation. Simply follow the singular path into the center and then return out by the same path.

10) **North Farm Field and Fallow Field.** The **North Field** provides additional cultivated fields for the CSA and Foodbank farm. The **Fallow Field** to the south provides bountiful habitat for a diverse population of native and migratory birds such as purple martins, swallows and bobolinks.

11) **Wetland and Pond.** Our wetland-pond ecosystem acts as a natural water purification system. Rainwater run-off from the land flows through the wetland and pond, into Yellow Creek and on to the Lake Erie watershed via the Cuyahoga River.

12) **Passive Solar Maintenance Barn.** On the southern exterior of this barn, a passive solar heat collector provides heat to the 8,000 cubic foot work room throughout the winter.

13) **Chicken House.** This small barn is home to our flock of Ameraucana and Golden Comet chickens. Please note the electric fence that marks the boundary of their open range. Chickens are given rangeland to feed and return nutrients to the soil through their waste.

14) **Arbor Garden.** Many fruits are planted in this garden, such as blueberries, and yellow raspberries. Grape vines grow at the base of each arbor post providing shade.

15) **Asparagus Field and South Field.** Asparagus is one of the first spring crops offered in Crown Point's CSA each year. The additional land cultivated in the South Field is part of the 9-

year crop rotation practiced at Crown Point, which builds healthy soils and controls pests.

16) **Beehives and Worm Compost Bin.** Bees are essential pollinators on the farm each of Crown Point's hives can house as many as 60,000 of these industrious insects. Please observe the hives from a safe distance! Adjacent to the hives is our **Worm Compost Bin.** Vermiculture uses worms to break down food waste into a nutrient-rich compost in about half the time as traditional compost.

17) **Woodland and Walking Paths.** Enjoy the wooded paths, but watch for poison ivy at the entrance. Wooden stakes mark the distance along the paths, and wooden benches offer an opportunity to rest.

18) **Crown Point: Highest Elevation in Bath** The large boulders deposited by glaciers near the west opening of the trail designates the elevation of 1220 feet. Have a seat and enjoy the view!

19) **Orchard House and Thoreau Cabins.** The Orchard House was once a picnic pavilion that has been made weather-tight and is now used as a meeting facility and community building. To the south behind the Orchard House are the **Thoreau Cabins**, 160sqft seasonal residences for apprentices, built by volunteers from reclaimed and sustainable building materials. The wooden cabin used wood from shipping crates, recycled slate shingles and sheep's wool for insulation. The white cabin has high efficiency windows and door, recycled aluminum metal sheeting and fiberglass-free insulation.

20) **Orchard.** Apples, pears, cherries and apricots grow in the orchard along with a spreading Chinese Chestnut tree at the east end.

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*renewing earth and spirit since 1989*

**Welcome to Crown Point,** green space that matters – a biologically diverse living laboratory that serves to demonstrate the practical applications of ecology and its connection with environmental protection, social justice and spirituality. The 130-acre Crown Point farmland in Bath, Ohio is a regional model for sustainable agriculture and environmental education since 1989. We believe that ecological land stewardship encourages structural and social change through local food production, positive impacts on the environment, health of our citizens, and local economic development.

**The highest point in Bath Township,** Crown Point overlooks scenic Cuyahoga Valley National Park. The property consists of a 13-acre Certified Organic farm, numerous gardens, a meadow labyrinth, models of green building design, and natural landscapes such as a woodland, meadows and a wetland-pond ecosystem. The beautiful country vista provides unique sacred spaces to walk, meditate and be inspired by creation.

**Crown Point is open to all** who are committed to creating a sustainable future. The grounds are open from dawn to dusk every day except major holidays. **Office hours** are Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. Visitors are requested to check in at the Farmhouse.

For group visits or tours, to rent facilities or to use the picnic tables, please make reservations in advance by calling Crown Point.

Crown Point is a non-smoking and fire-arms free facility indoors and outdoors. Leashed pets are welcome, outside of the farm fields and gardens.

1) **Jubilee Garden** Dedicated on June 15, 2007, this garden commemorates the 800<sup>th</sup> year of the Dominican Order of St. Dominic. He was a priest of the Spanish diocese of Osma, when Dominic founded this order in 1206. In the garden **native plants** such as Wild Ginger, Grass Sedge, Hay Scented Fern, Break Grass, Samantha Hydrangea, Christmas Fern, Grow-Low Fragrant Sumac and Foam Flower have been planted. Also featured are low-carbon materials: recycled cobblestones from city of Akron streets, locally manufactured clay bricks and recycled barn stone.

2) **Historic Farmhouse/Office.** Built in 1854, the farmhouse now serves as the administrative offices of Crown Point and residence for members of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. During the later 1960's and 1970's the house facilitated the Our Lady of the Elms preschool, also a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

3) **Garden Gate and Amphitheater.** Note the design of the garden gate, a gift from the Leadership Akron Class XVI of 2000. Open the truth window to see that the walls are made of straw, a renewable building material. The benches in the Outdoor Amphitheater are made from recycled milk jugs! **Portable Restrooms(R)** are located adjacent to the entrance of the main gardens behind a cluster of pines.

**Gardens and Greenhouses (4,5,6 & 7)**  
From this point, you can see the main gardens which are certified organic through the Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association. *Caution — As you enter the gardens, be mindful of the electric fence. This fence design prevents deer from eating our crops.*